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30 November 1966

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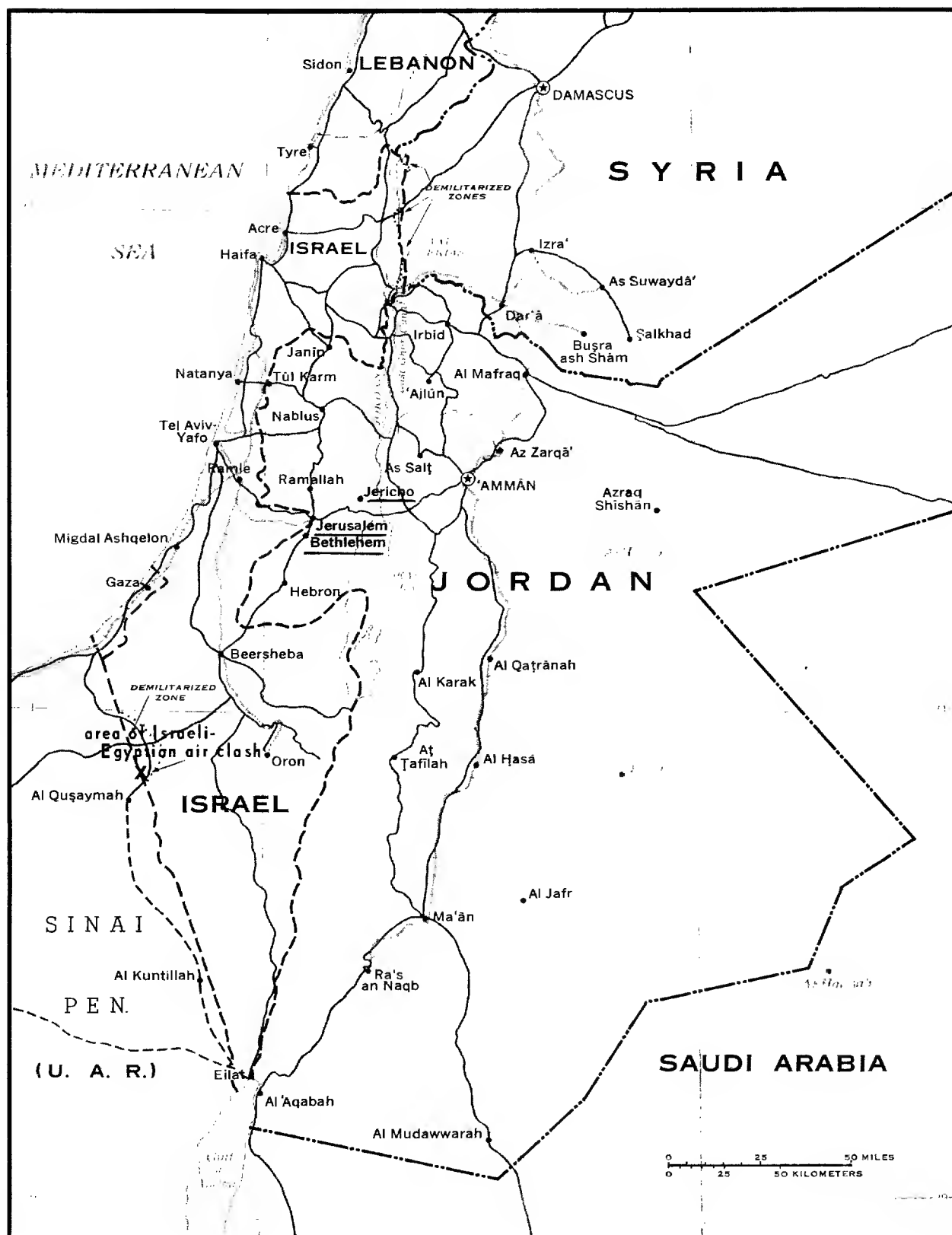
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Jordan: Additional demonstrations and an attempted general strike against the regime took place in west Jordan yesterday.

The day marked the anniversary of the 1947 UN partition of Palestine. Dissident groups tried to exploit resentment over the partition by attempting to stimulate further antigovernment protests. Parades in Bethlehem and Jericho began peacefully but turned into near riots as police clashed with the marchers. A "general strike" in Jerusalem was not completely effective because public utilities and some businesses did not respond. Schools still are closed throughout the area to discourage demonstrations.

The army has moved at least 14 tanks and several armored personnel carriers into west Jordan. While the armor will increase the army's capability for maintaining internal security, it probably was deployed to rebut criticism of Jordan's weak defense against Israeli aggression.

The presence of armor in west Jordan violates the 1949 Israeli-Jordanian armistice agreement and will probably bring a pro-forma Israeli protest. There is no evidence that Jordan plans to attack Israel. A brief exchange of fire along the border yesterday morning appears to have been an incidental result of the general tension.

The Israelis have announced that they shot down two MIG-19s in an air clash over the Egyptian-Israeli border yesterday. The Egyptians admit only that one of their MIGs "crashed." [redacted] (Map)

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Burundi: Burundi remains calm in the wake of the coup by Prime Minister Micombero, who deposed King Ntare V.

The new republican regime has imposed tight restrictions on movements in Bujumbura and apparently is trying to strengthen the army's hold in the provinces, where there is some sympathy for the King. At present, however, Micombero and his associates appear to face little serious opposition.

The coup was organized by the army, under Micombero's leadership, and presumably was backed by Tutsi extremists. At least some of the latter, including Attorney General Simbananiye, have been identified with harshly repressive policies toward the country's Hutu majority. Many have supported the Rwandan Tutsi exiles, who have long been trying to mount an attack from Burundi into Rwanda.

The Tutsi ruling group tends to fear and distrust the US, and relations with the US will probably remain chilly. However, inexperience and a reluctance to offend Belgium, Burundi's major aid supplier, will inhibit drastic initiatives in foreign policy. The new regime will also hesitate to offend such important neighbors as the Congo. Some of the Tutsi militants, however, in the past have favored re-establishment of relations with Communist China.

Over the longer run, the country will be less stable with the removal of the King. The throne occupied a position above the endless factional strife of the Tutsi ruling group. It was the object of veneration for Hutu as well as Tutsi, and thus served to dampen the Tutsi-Hutu rivalry. The Hutu--who constitute a majority of the population as well as the army's rank-and-file--are now likely to grow increasingly restive.

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Indonesia: The trial of former air marshal Omar Dani, the only high-ranking government leader who openly supported the abortive coup of 1 October 1965, has again been delayed.

Dani was chief of the air force and spent much of the day of the coup with President Sukarno. The army looks forward to his trial as the major move to implicate the President in the murder of its leaders.

The latest postponement--possibly until 5 December, [redacted] has been attributed to the judge's illness. However, it could mean that negotiations are under way between Sukarno and Suharto over a planned enlargement of parliament, which Suharto hopes will overcome the present obstruction to his program. [redacted]

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